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# LAST EDITION.

## IS THE CHART WRONG?

### Kearsarge's Navigator Lyman Makes a Startling Assertion.

### Believes Roncador Reef Is 5 Miles Out of Its Mapped Position.

### Court of Inquiry Resumes Its Investigation of the Corvette's Wreck.

Additional interest was lent to the proceedings to-day of the Court of Inquiry, which is investigating the loss of the United States corvette Kearsarge on Roncador Reef, by the fact that Lieut. Charles H. Lyman was to take the stand.

Lieut. Lyman was the Kearsarge's navigator, and it was upon his calculations on that fatal February day that Commander Heyerman depended for his

It was expected that Lieut. Lyman would have some little difficulty in explaining why he was nearly seven miles out of his course at the time the grand old corvette ran head-on into the white water which marked the location of the treacherous reef.

The court assembled at 10.30 o'clock and Admiral Gherardi called for order a few minutes later. Rear Admiral Stanton and Commander Heyerman, whose testimony was taken yesterday, were both present to listen to the re-

ing of the record of the previous day's proceedings, which, in accordance with the rules governing Naval Courts of Inquiry, was undertaken by the Judge Advocate.

It took Judge Advocate Kelley an hour and a half to read the testimony taken yesterday. Commander Heyerman was recalled to the stand.

He was asked who had become of the cipher code book. He said that one of the six men took it ashore and the

Commander Heyerman was asked if he had had time to take soundings after the white water was sighted. He answered that he had not.

"Why?" was Admiral Gherardi's question. "He was simply put."

"When I sighted the white water we were running at the rate of eight knots an hour, and we were within a half mile of the reef. In the four minutes it took to run that half mile I would not have had time to get the Thompson sounding machine in working order. It would

Lieut. Lyman is a man of marked personality. He is apparently about forty five years old, and although not above the average height has a commanding presence. A high, intellectual forehead and pair of kindly blue eyes are his principal characteristics. A sweeping blond mustache partially hides a fairly firm mouth. His appearance is not that of a man who would be likely to make mistakes at critical periods.

He said in answer to the Judge Advocate's questions that his name was Charles Huntington Lyman, and he had been in the States for 12 years.

He was asked to identify the "rough log book, the official navigation book" and the book of sailing directions of the Gulf of Mexico and various charts.

Commander Schley, who was in charge of the Bear and Thetis in the Greeley relief expedition, came into court at this juncture. He was an interested witness during the examination of Lieutenant Lyman.

The witness made the rather startling assertion that since the wreck of the

Kearse he had reason to believe the Roncador Reef was from three to five miles to the westward of its position shown on the chart.

He thought it was taken twenty minutes after low water, and was made before the «Kearse» struck, and his camping on the key, observations were taken by other officers with results which confirmed his calculations.

Lieut. Lyman thought, however, that the chronometer used in making the observations on the key had been damaged in landing it ashore. The chart used was made from a survey taken in 1858.

Lieut. Lyman thought that the method

The four chronometers used on board the corvette were, according to Lieutenant Lyman, in perfect condition previous to Feb. 2. He had tested them before leaving New York.

Asked as to the navigation equipment on the Kearsarge, he said that it was ample. All the instruments were good except the night sextant and the binocular glasses, both having been in use for about 6 years. The lieutenant then described the method of taking the latitude and longitude three times a day.

calculations were always correct. He always went over them carefully a second time and then two naval cadets checked them all over.

Cadet McCormick aided him usually in taking signals.

A recess was then taken.

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## FITCH WANTS TO SAVE TIME

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He Suggests a Needed Reform in the Making Out of Pay-Cheeks.

Comptroller Fitch has suggested change in the methods of making out the pay-rolls of the Board of Education which, if adopted, will facilitate the payment of teachers and janitors.

Under the present red-tape system, the pay-rolls are made out by the Board of Education and then sent down to the Comptroller, whose clerks and auditors have to verify them and make out the individual checks.

As there are about 5,000 checks to be filed each month, much time is wasted and the pay-rolls of other departments are necessarily delayed.

The Comptroller suggests that the individual checks be drawn by the persons who make out the pay-roll, and thus save time and extra work in the Comptroller's office.

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### Weather Forecast.

The weather forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 5 P. M. to-morrow is as follows: Cloudy and foggy, with occasional rains; warmer easterly to northeasterly winds.

The following record shows the changes in thermometer during the morning hours, as indicated by the thermometer at Perry's pharmacy:

| 8 A. 26....30; 6 A. 26....30; 9 A. 26....30; 10 A. 26....